Telecom Network Through Microwave Media And Optical Fibre Cable

†971. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the capitals/cities and headquarters of Union Territories in the country have been connected with telecom network through microwave media and optical fibre cables;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the names of the places which have not been yet connected with telecom network; and

(d) the reasons therefore and by when the above places would be connected with telecom network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) All the State Capitals and all the Union Territory Headquarters except Portblair (Andaman and Nicobar) and Kavaratti (Lakshdweep) have microwave and/or optical fibre cable connectivity. A detailed Statement is enclosed. (*See* below)

(b) and (c) Provision of Microwave to the islands is technically not feasible and optical fibre (OF) media is not economically viable. OF media has, however, been planned for Srinagar, Imphal, Aizawal, Kohima and Agartala and the work is planned to be completed progressively by March, 2002.

(d) Provisions of Microwave to the islands is technically not feasible and Optical Fibre (OF) media is not economically viable. OF media has, however, been planned for Srinagar, Imphal, Aizawal, Kohima and Agartala and the work is planned to be completed progressively by March, 2002.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

The Status of telecom. Connectivity at State Capitals and Union Territory headquarters

S. No.	State	Capital	Available Connectivity
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	MW* and OFC**
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	-do-
3.	Assam	Dispur	-do-
4.	Bihar	Patna	-do-
5.	Goa	Panaji	-do-
6.	Gujarat	Gandhinagar	-do-
7.	Haryana	Chandhigarh	-do-
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	-do-
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar	MW
10.	Karnataka	Bangalore	MW and OFC
11.	Kerala	Tiruvanantpuram	-do-
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	-do-
13.	Maharashtra	Mumbai	-do-
14.	Manipur	Imphal	MW
15.	Meghalya	Shillong	MW and OFC
16.	Mizoram	Aizawal	MW
17.	Nagaland	Kohima	-do-
18.	Orissa	Bhubaneshwar	MW and OFC
19.	Punjab	Chandigarh	-do-
20.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	-do-
21.	Sikkim	Gangtok	MW
22.	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	MW and OFC
23.	Tripura	Agartala	MW
24.	U.P.	Lucknow	MW and OFC
25.	West Bengal	Calcutta	-do-
UNION TERRITORIES			
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	Portblair	SAT***
2.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	MW and OFC

S. No.	State	Capital	Available Connectivity
3.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Silvasa	MW and OFC
4.	Daman and Diu	Daman	MW and OFC
5.	Delhi	Delhi	MW and OFC
6.	Lakshadweep	Kavaratti	SAT
7.	Pondicherry	Pondicherry	OFC

MW*-Microwave, OFC**---Optical Fibre Cable, SAT***---Satellite

Modernisation of Postal Network

972. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a comprehensive action plan for expansion, upgradation, strengthening and modernization of postal network in the country during the current year and Ninth Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith physical and financial targets; State-wise in general and Maharashtra in particular;

(c) the new schemes proposed for rendering better and improved services to the people in rural and urban areas particularly in Maharashtra; and

(d) the details thereof scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICAITONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Expansion—As per plan projection it is proposed to open 500 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices (EDBOs), 50 departmental Sub Post Offices (DSOs) and 1000 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras (PSSKs) in current Plan year of the 9th five Year Plan. It is also proposed to open 500 EDBOs, 50 DSOs and 1000 PSSKs in the annual plan 2001-2002 of the Ninth Five-Year Plan. A target of 60 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices, 2 departmental Sub Post Offices and 85 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras have been fixed for the state of Maharashtra.

Upgradation—There are well formulated specific norms for